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GENERAL

1. USSR reportedly delivers another note to Iran--The US Military Attache in Tehran has been informed by Chief of Staff Razmara that the USSR has delivered another note to Iran rejecting the last Iranian note (1 April). The Soviet note is said to state that the Allies occupied Iran in 1941 because Soviet security was jeopardized and that a similar situation exists now.

EUROPE

2. FRANCE: Communist discontent with Party policies--US Embassy Paris reports increasing signs of discontent among rank and file members of the French Communist Party with respect to Communist policies, especially the frontal attack against the European recovery program. The Embassy has been told by "a trustworthy informant" that the Communists are increasingly worried over the growing feeling among trade unionists that the attitude toward US aid taken by the French Confederation of Labor and the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) has been too uncompromising. Several Communist labor leaders have reportedly expressed the belief that the WFTU Executive Committee will seek, at its 30 April meeting in Rome, some compromise formula which might prevent a WFTU split over the European recovery program issue.

(CIA Comment: The Soviet Trade Union Council recently indicated that it would uphold the right of each national affiliate in the WFTU to determine its own attitude toward the European recovery program. CIA believes that any split in the WFTU is less likely to occur at Rome than at the Brussels Congress next fall.)

3. TRIESTE: Communists plan illegal May Day demonstration--US Political Adviser Joyce reports that the Communists are proceeding with their plans for a mass demonstration in Trieste

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on May Day in defiance of AMG regulations. Joyce indicates that the Communists are attempting to bring demonstrators into Trieste from Yugoslavia and adds that pro-Italian activist groups are proving difficult to control.

(CIA Comment: Although Communist-sponsored demonstrations on May Day may lead to sharp clashes between Communists and Italians, control measures being taken by AMG and the Trieste police will prevent such clashes from developing into large-scale mob violence.)

4. **CZECHOSLOVAKIA:** Benes a "physical and mental wreck" -- According to US Ambassador Steinhardt, the remarks recently made to US Ambassador Smith in Moscow by Czechoslovak Ambassador Horak "should be treated with the utmost reserve" (Horak told Smith that Benes intends to veto the new Communist constitution; see Daily Summary of 21 April, item 1.) Steinhardt points out that certain of Horak's statements to Smith are inconsistent with those he made recently to Steinhardt. Steinhardt adds that Benes has been "a physical and mental wreck for two months."

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

5. **IRAQ:** Report of troop movements to Palestine denied--The US Military Attache in Baghdad has been informed by the Director of Operations of the Iraqi General Staff that there is no intention "at present" of sending Iraqi troops to Palestine.

(CIA Comment: Despite such official denials, CIA considers it distinctly possible that troops of the Arab national armies will enter Palestine not later than 15 May. Such troops, however, are more likely to come initially from Transjordan and Syria than from Iraq.)

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THE AMERICAS

6. **VENEZUELA:** Government to take anti-sabotage measures - US Embassy Bogota reports that ~~is President Betancourt~~ (head of the Venezuelan delegation to the Bogota Conference) feels that his government should install anti-aircraft equipment at Venezuelan oil fields. Betancourt will recommend that the Venezuelan Government send a mission to the US to purchase such equipment. Betancourt perceives no objection if the US-owned oil companies send civilian anti-sabotage experts to Venezuela. US Embassy Caracas reports that the Venezuelan Government is preparing to send Army units to the oil fields on 30 April in anticipation of possible May Day disturbances.

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